Motor accidents near the Pulimood bridge. in Mavelikara taluk.

335. *MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) the number of motor accidents that took place near the Pulimood bridge in Mavelikara town during the years 1113 and 1114;

(*b*) whether they have received any representations from the people for the construction of parapet walls protecting the road on either side of the bridge;

(*c*) whether any action was taken on them; and

(*d*) if so, the steps taken till now?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: (*a*) Only one accident in 1114.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) & (*d*) Do not arise in view of the answer to (*b*).

Opening of a canal.

336. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapally* cum *Kartikapally*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether application has been received for the opening of a canal along S. Nos. 476/1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Thrikkakara pakuthi, Kunnatnad taluk, by any officer of the State;

(*b*) whether any officer inspected the spot; and

(*c*) the result of that enquiry?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The preliminary investigation has been made and a detailed estimate is being prepared.

New arrangement in the Pre-audit.

337. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether at present a separate receipt is demanded when cheques are handed over from the Pre-audit Treasury;

(*b*) whether that was the system in existence before; and

(*c*) what are the benefits of the present system over that which existed before?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The rules have provided for it long before.

(*c*) The procedure is the legally correct one.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether there was a single case of defalcation in the Pre-Audit during the last 30 years of its inception?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: I claim notice.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know if the rules had provided for it long before and if the system was beneficial why the system was not used before?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: The new system was followed as soon as the defect in the old system was found out by the officers concerned.

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MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know what exactly was the defect in the system?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: The point is very technical and if the honourable member would care to come to me leisurely I will explain to him with reference to the vouchers what exactly the defect was.

Audit of the Transport Department.

338. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Transport Department was audited last; and

(*b*) what the result of the audit was?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: (*a*) If by audit is meant local audit, such audit was conducted in the 1st half of the current year.

If otherwise, the audit is done monthly.

(*b*) The report is under consideration and it is too early to state anything about the result of audit.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether the members has seen that report.

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: Yes, I have seen the report.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether the impression that the department is running at a loss can be ascertained from that report?

MR. S. SUNDARARAJAN: Government have no impression like that.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether the member is aware that the Government has issued a Press Note stating that the department was running at a loss due to the subversive activities of the State Congress?

PRESIDENT: That was not what the Press Note stated. Honourable members should verify the correctness of their statements before they make them. Questions of that nature may have a very deleterious effect on the public. Government did not say that the department was running at a loss. What they said was that much loss was caused on account of the subversive activities of the State Congress. It is very different from saying that the department was running at a loss due to the subversive activities of the State Congress. Honourable members who are the custodians of the honour of the departments as much as the Government ought to be careful when they make such statements.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: That was not my intention. I did not want to condemn the department. I asked the question only on a point of information.

PRESIDENT: If really the department is badly managed, there must be no camouflage but there must be straightforward comments and Government will have the opportunity to deal with the matter and take up the responsibility to deal with it. But indirect statements of this nature are unhelpful for the proper running of administration and nobody

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